



OMAGH COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

September 2017

DIARY DATES

SEPTEMBER:

Parent Information Meetings

Monday 11th - Yr 2 @1.15pm

- Yr 6@2.15pm

Tuesday 12th-Yr 3@1.15pm

- Yr 5@2.15pm

Wednesday 13th-Yr 4@2.00pm

Thursday 14th-Yr 7@2.15pm

Friday 15th- Yr 1 @1.15pm

Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th

Room 7 and 8 Garden Trip.

Monday 18th September - Room

5 Trip to Supervalu

Thursday 21st Rhyme Time

2.15pm

Monday 25th—**SCHOOL CLOSED**

- Staff Development Day

Tuesday 26th -International Day
of Languages

Wednesday 27th—Yr 4 Shared

Education Activity Day

OCTOBER

Thursday 19th-School Harvest
and Coffee Morning

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Parents are reminded:

To take care when using the back turning circle and to be mindful of children.

The front car park should only be accessed, before school and at home time, by parents with young babies in car seats and those with disabilities .

Disabled parking spaces are for Blue Badge holders only.

PASTORAL CARE PACKS

You will now all have received your Pastoral Care Packs. We only send these out every three years to help reduce our carbon footprint.

(Except for Year 1 children and new families who receive the Pack on starting school).

This pack can also be found on the school website in the section for parents under policies and pastoral care. This section of the website is constantly being updated online with DE regulations. And contains more detailed information and guidance in relation to Pastoral Care.

DATA PROTECTION FORMS

Can I please remind parents to

- return slips allowing permission for the taking of photographs
- register their children with school office for After Schools Club or Homework Club
- inform school of any change of address, telephone numbers or if their children have had any new medical conditions diagnosed over the summer period.

AMENITIES

We would appreciate it if all outstanding amenities could be paid as soon as possible.

This fund is used to pay for transport on school trips and provide additional experiences for your children during the year such as theatre performances, coaching, art tuition, music, and supplementing swimming, sports etc.

SCHOOL UNIORMS

Parents are reminded that all items of school uniform should be **clearly labelled with their child's name**.

Also both boys and girls should be wearing **black school shoes** (trainers are not acceptable) and a school tie when wearing school shirts or blouses. **PE items should also be labelled and in a PE bag in school for use during PE lessons**. Our full uniform policy can be found on the school website.

BREAKFAST CLUB

We all know breakfast is the most important meal of the day and one not to be missed.

Breakfast Club is open from **8.15am** serving a varied choice of breakfasts at very reasonable prices.

HEALTHY BREAKS

Children should have healthy breaks in school with them such as fruit, yoghurt or vegetable sticks, Chocolate or crisps are prohibited and please remember to check the sugar content, as many cereal bars contain very high levels of sugar.

PLEASE REMEMBER NO NUTS

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

2017-2018 School Holiday List can be found on our school website.





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SWIMMING PROGRAMME

The Schools Swimming Programme has recommenced.

This term Year 6 will be participating in the 15 week programme.

YEAR 5 STRINGED TUITION

Year 5 begin their stringed tuition at the end of the month under the guidance of Mrs Strawbridge- an exciting opportunity for all Year 5 pupils to experience violin and cello lessons.

A.Q.E.

Mrs Stronge and Mr Morgan are starting their Monday and Tuesday after school Literacy and Numeracy Revision Classes this month. Also Miss Funston starts the Friday morning class this week for Year 7 to help support those children who will sit their AQE in November

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

September brings the start of after-school activities. These begin this week and are led both by teaching staff and external coaches. There is a wide and varied programme of activities on offer and it has been heartening to see the great response to these activities.

After-School Activities this term includes Dance, Art, Code Club and Running Club which start on **Tuesday 19th September** and Basketball which begins on Wednesday 20th. Later in the month Bible Club, Jumping Clay, Rugby, Football and Netball will also commence.

CLOTHING BANK

Parents are reminded that when they are putting away their summer clothes if they have any unwanted items of shoes, clothing, handbags etc to donate them to the school clothing bank situated at the back entrance of the school. By doing this we can all help the environment and school funds.



SWAP SHOP

If you want to purchase additional items of school uniform from the Swap Shop, if you pass on what you need and the size and Miss Lockington will try to facilitate you.

OPEN DOOR POLICY

In school we do have an open door policy where parents are invited to bring their children into school in the mornings, see their classroom, their work on display boards and say good morning to their teacher as it strengthens home school links.

We do, however, ask if you need to speak to your child's teacher about a specific matter that you arrange an appointment with them through the school office at a time which is more convenient and conducive to having a conversation.



NURSERY NEWS

We would like to welcome our new children and families into Omagh County Nursery.

Mrs MacCrossan has already commenced meeting with parents of Pre-School children. These will continue throughout the month of September.

Pre-School children will also begin Rugby Skills on **Thursday 28th September**.

All Nursery children will receive with their newsletter a very informative little booklet distributed by Barnardos SACHEL Project initiative. We hope that you will find it beneficial.

This year we are delighted to have received funding for the Getting Ready to Learn Initiative.

There will be a number of activity sessions running throughout the year, the first being -

"The Big Bed Time Read" which will be held on **Thursday 9th November**.

More details will follow later.

A BIG THANK YOU FROM MRS CRAWFORD

Mrs Crawford would like to thank everyone for the cards, notes and gifts she received at the end of term to mark her retirement.

She was overwhelmed and wanted to pass on her appreciation to all of the school community for all their kind words and thoughts.

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WINGS APPEAL

The WINGS Appeal fundraises for the Royal Air Forces Association to support serving and former RAF personnel and their families whenever they are in need. This year there are metal pins and the suggested donation is £1.50.

CROSSING PATROL

Please note there will be **NO CROSSING PATROL** at the Swinging Bars Roundabout on **Friday 15th September, Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th September 2017**



School Initiatives

In Omagh County PS as well as ensuring our children achieve high levels of attainment in Literacy and Numeracy we seek to provide our children with a broad and balanced education during the school day and through an extensive range of after-school activities which will encourage them to try new things and discover and explore their interests and talents.

This includes:

- [Mandarin Language Programme Yr 1-7](#) - the school will develop a knowledge and understanding of the Mandarin culture and language through this new school initiative.
- A 30 Week Free [Stringed Tuition](#) for Year 5
- [Art lessons](#) from artist Trevor Verner for Yr 6 and 7 Term 2 and 3
- [Sustrans Programme](#) -encourages more pupils to travel actively on their journey to school, rather than rely on lifts from their parents. The school has already received its **Bronze and Silver Award** last year and is now striving for its **Gold Award**.
- [PATHS](#)- our promoting positive attitudes and thinking skills programme will also continue this Year from Yr 1-7, and with the support of Mrs Lindsay McSparron from Barnardos, we hope to become a Model School this year.
- We will continue to promote and maintain our [Gold Health Award and Eco Schools Green Flag status](#).
- [Highland Dancing and Piping](#) were introduced to school last year and proved very popular. This Ulster Scots programme will be extended this year to include drumming.
- We also hope that by October to have created an additional [Outdoor Play Area](#) for Foundation Stage and KS1 and a [Sensory Room](#) within the school.

MANDARIN TEST

Well done to all those children who sat the Mandarin Test last year.

Top scorers included :

- Aron Soong 200 你好
 - Harvey King 195 nǐ hǎo
 - Ellie Armstrong 190
 - Irish Briones 185
 - Charlie Hetherington 180
- Other high achievers to be congratulated include:
- Matthew Armstrong
 - Ben Dempsey
 - Christopher Murphy

A USEFUL LITTLE CHART WHICH HAS PROVED POPULAR ON OUR PTA FACEBOOK

What Time Should Your Kids Go To Bed?							
Wake Up Time							
	6:00 AM	6:15 AM	6:30 AM	6:45 AM	7:00 AM	7:15 AM	7:30 AM
Age	Bed Time						
5	6:45 PM	7:00 PM	7:15 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	8:15 PM	8:30 PM
6	7:00 PM	7:15 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	8:00 PM	8:15 PM	8:30 PM
7	7:15 PM	7:15 PM	7:30 PM	8:00 PM	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	8:45 PM
8	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	8:00 PM	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	8:45 PM	9:00 PM
9	7:30 PM	8:00 PM	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	8:45 PM	9:00 PM	9:15 PM
10	8:00 PM	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	8:45 PM	9:00 PM	9:15 PM	9:30 PM
11	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	8:45 PM	9:00 PM	9:15 PM	9:30 PM	9:45 PM
12	8:15 PM	8:30 PM	8:45 PM	9:00 PM	9:15 PM	9:30 PM	9:45 PM

Points for Children to Consider when using the Internet



Follow These SMART TIPS

Secret - always keep your name, address, mobile phone number and password private - it's like giving out the keys to your home!

Meeting someone you have contacted in cyberspace can be dangerous. Only do so with your parent's/carer's permission, and then when they can be present.

Accepting e-mails or opening files from people you don't really know or trust can get you into trouble - they may contain viruses or nasty messages.

Remember someone on-line may be lying and not be who they say they are. Stick to the public areas in chat rooms and if you feel uncomfortable simply get out of there!

Tell your parent or carer if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried.

SMART TIPS from "Helping your parents be cool about the Internet", produced by: Northern Ireland Area Child Protection Committee.

What is the recommended Screen Time for our children?

Developmental Age	How Much?	Non-violent TV	Handheld devices	Non-violent video games	Violent video games
0-2 years	none	never	never	never	never
3-5 years	1 hour/day	✓	never	never	never
6-12 years	2 hours/day	✓	never	never	never
13-18 years	2 hours/day	✓	✓	limit to 30 minutes/day	